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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor:

MATSUMURA, YOSHIYUKI

Application No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

Title:

FASTENING ELEMENT AND ARTICLE EQUIPPED WITH SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Filing of Papers and Fees by Express Mailing

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.10, this application and the documents and fees listed on this transmittal letter are being deposited on the date indicated below with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit April 10, 2006

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Dear Sir:

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above-referenced application.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723.